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## ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

METHOD FOR LINKING ACCOUNTS CORRESPONDING TO  
DIFFERENT PRODUCTS TOGETHER TO CREATE A GROUP

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Linking accounts corresponding to different products together to create a group so that group processing can be performed at the group level while independent processing of the accounts is performed at the account level. The method links the accounts into a group by linking a financial record for each account to group master data for the group. The group master data includes information about the group, including group parameters and a group identifier. A group typically includes a key account and one or more dependent accounts. The relationship between a dependent account and the group is specified by a dependent strategy. A dependent strategy specifies group level processing options for the account. The relationships between the accounts and the group are flexible to accommodate changes in the status of the group cardholders.

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